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COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS
Sub-Commission on Prevention of
Discrimination and Protection
of Minorities
Forty-ninth session
Agenda item 2

QUESTION OF THE VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS, INCLUDING POLICIES OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION AND SEGREGATION AND OF APARTHEID, IN ALL COUNTRIES, WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO COLONIAL AND OTHER DEPENDENT COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES: REPORT OF THE SUB-COMMISSION UNDER COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS RESOLUTION 8 (XXIII)

Mr. Bossuyt, Mr. Boutkevitch, Mrs. Daes, Mr. Eide, Mrs. Gwanmesia, Mr. Joinet, Mr. Maxim, Mrs. Palley, Mr. Weissbrodt: draft resolution

1997/... Situation of human rights in Bahrain

The Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities,

Reaffirming the obligation of States under the Charter of the United Nations to promote and encourage universal respect for, and observance of, human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion,

Reaffirming its conviction that racism and racial discrimination negate the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,

Noting that the elected National Assembly of Bahrain was dissolved in August 1975, that for 22 years Bahrain has been without an elected legislature, and that there are no democratic institutions in Bahrain,

Noting also that Bahrain is facing problems of internationally assisted terrorism, and condemning all acts of terrorism in that country,

Noting further the information concerning a serious deterioration of the human rights situation in Bahrain, including discrimination against the indigenous Shi'a population, extrajudicial killings, persistent use of torture in Bahraini prisons on a large scale as well as the abuse of women and children who are detained, and arbitrary detention without trial or access by detainees to legal advice,

1. Expresses its deep concern about the alleged gross and systematic violations of human rights in Bahrain;

2. Urges the Government of Bahrain to comply with applicable international human rights standards and to ratify the International Covenants on Human Rights and the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment;

3. Requests the Commission on Human Rights at its next session to consider the situation of human rights in Bahrain under its agenda item entitled "Question of the violation of human rights and fundamental freedoms in any part of the world, with particular reference to colonial and other dependent countries and territories".